E. P. H (1948) Department.

MS SERIES.

G.O. No. 3209 Edn

Dated 20-12-48

[Despatch Abstract.]

tive Assembly Question - Admissions to colleges - Instruction

recorded -

ADMISSION TO COLLEGES.

1480 Q--SRI A. SUBRAHMANYAM: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state--

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government have issued instructions to Colleges, both private and Government, that admissions should be made on communal basis;

(b) if the answer is in the affirmative, whether these instructions apply to the Technical as well as Arts Colleges;

(c) if admissions are to be made on communal lines on what basis the seats are to be allotted and whether they are to be reserved for communities irrespective of whether the applicant is fit or unfit; or whether there will be any relaxation in the percentage of marks to be obtained for different communities;

(d) if marks are the standard, what is the percentage to be obtained by each community; and if community alone is the standard, what is the number of seats reserved for each community particularly among the backward communities; and

(e) whether these instructions apply to the High schools also?

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:--
"(a), (b), (c) & (d) Government have not laid down any rigid proportions for admission of students from various communities into Government Arts Colleges. Principals of colleges have however, been instructed to exercise the greatest care in seeing that due representation is given to Non-Brahmans, to all minority communities, to Muslims, to Harijans and to women. It has also been laid down that the fact that candidates from backward communities do not possess equally high marks as candidates from forward communities should be not stand in the way of deserving candidates from such communities being given due consideration.

"These instructions do not apply to private colleges; but, under the Grant-in-aid code, private colleges should take in candidates of all communities.

"Government ordered last year that 10 per cent of the seats in all Government and private Arts Colleges should be reserved for Harijans.

"In regard to admissions into Government Engineering Colleges the following communal proportion is to be observed as far as possible:-

Non-Brahman Hindu	.. 6 out of 14
Backward Hindu communities	.. 2 out of 14
Brahmans	.. 2 out of 14
Harijans	.. 2 out of 14
Anglo-Indians and Indian Christians	.. 1 out of 14
Muslims	.. 1 out of 14

"It has also been laid down that due regard should be paid to the admission of students from backward communities. While no definite percentage of marks has been prescribed, it has been suggested that a decent minimum qualification should be insisted upon.

[illegible]

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:-

[illegible]

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:- "Sir, in view of the fact that the Government have fixed a percentagefor the so-called backward community on a population basis, and it has not served the purpose of advancing those backward community, may I know whether the Government will take away the word 'Backward' from those communities?"

THE HON. SRI T.S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:-

"It does serve the purpose of advancing them."

SRI A. VEDARATNAM PILLAI:--"May I know how long the system of communal basis will continue? And Whether the Government will terminate the selection on communal basis at any stage and if so when, Sir?"

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:-
"If this House is prepared to say that no special protection is necessary to backward community, the Government will be prepared to take away all these distinctions."

M. S. HUSSAIN SAHIB BAHADUR:--"Is merit observed in making selections to colleges and schools?"

THE HON. SRI T.S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:--"The best of those communities are selected."

MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:--"May I know whether the perdentage is based on population basis or on any other consideration?"

THE HON. SRI T.S.AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:--"Evidently it is not merely on population basis. In case of some communities two are selected out of 14 when their percentage is 3 per cent in the population."

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:--"Sir, since communalism is regarded as a bogey these days, may I know from the Hon. Minister how he is consistent in fostering and preserving communalism within the ranks of the Hindus themselves?"

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:--"It is not the Government, Sir, that are fostering and perserving it. Its existence is a fact. It is only an unwise man that will not take note of things that do exist. When people are born in Harijan communities or other backward communities, certain social opportunities must be given to them. The Government want to abolish all these inequalities, and all this sense of communalism. But I am afraid without giving equal opportunities for the various communities, it cannot be done."

SRI A. SUBRAHMANIYAM:

[illegible]

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIAR:-

"Certainly, Sir."

SRI V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:--"May I ask, Sir, whether the number fixed for the backward communities represents only the minimum that has been prescribed, and whether if suitable candidates are available from those communities, more than the minimum prescribed, will they all be admitted into the Colleges?"

THE HON. SRI T.S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:--"Yes, Sir, they will be admitted into the Colleges."

N. MUHAMMAD ANWAR SAHIB BAHADUR:--"Now that the Hon. Minister has said, it is only the unwise man that will not understand the realities of the situation, may I take it that the Government of India who are not committed to this communal basis, are unwise in this matter?"

MR. SPEAKER:--"That question does not arise."

N. MUHAMMAD ANWAR SAHIB BAHADUR:--"But it is a very pertinent question, Sir."

SRI L. N. GOPALASWAMI:--"Arising out of the answer of the Hon. Minister that communalism exists in the people themselves, may I ask whether it is not the duty of the Government to erase it if they feel that it should be erased?"

THE HON. SRI T.S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:--"Yes, Sir, it must be erased. Giving social opportunities for all equally is one of the methods by which that can be done."

H. S. HUSSAIN SAHIB BAHADUR:--"Is it not a fact that the communal rule is being observed in order to do communal and social justice?"

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:--"Exactly so, Sir,"

MOHAMMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:-"arising out of the answer of the Hon. Minister to (e), may I know, Sir, why the same principle is not followed in the matter of admissions to high schools?"

THE HON. SRI T.S.AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:. "Sir, the principle involved is that everybody that wants to have high school education should be provided with the same, irrespective of the community to which he belongs."

SRI D.V. RAMASWAMI:--"In view of the fact that the right to education is a fundamental right recognized by the Constitution of India, vesting in the parents, will the Government consider the desirability of removing the rigors of this communal ratio at least so far as the admission of boys to Colleges is concerned?"

THE HON. SRI T.S.AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:--"With regard to Arts Colleges, I have repeatedly said that attempts are being made to provide admission for almost all the eligible students who seek admission into the Colleges; but in case of professional colleges, the position is slightly different."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:--"Is it not the fact that the Government have fixed these percentages for backward communities in order to enable them to advance as quickly as possible, and if that is so, may I know whether it is not necessary that they should be given a higher percentage, so that the advand can be speeded up?"

THE HON. SRI T.S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:--"Yes, Sir, now a beginning has been made; and if they come higher up, greater opportunities will be given to them."

SRI N. S. VARADACHARI:-"If the object of the Government is to re-organize certain colleges so as to make them centres for the advancement of scientific learning, will the Government be pleased to consider the advisability of abolishing this communal rule, in so far as these specialized studies are concerned?"

THE HON. SRI T.S.AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:- "Yes, Sir, Government want to make a difference between merely professional colleges, and colleges in which highly sepecalized knowledge has to be imparted. In the case of courses, for which highly specialized knowledge is necessary, the qualification needed will be of a high standard of merit.

SRI T. VISWANATHAM:--"In view of the professed intention of the Government to do away with communal distinctions as soon as possible, may I ask the Hon. Minister whether the existence of this communal G.O. and these communal proportions and their insistence not merely in services, but also in education, will not perpetrate these communal distinctions for ever, and will never help the Government to remove these distinctions?"

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:--"Sir, this is a question which the hon. Member may put to hi self, because it is a matter of a change in society, which cannot be brought about by any order issued by Government."

SRI T. VISWANATHAM:--"May I ask, Sir, whether the Government will help the society in removing these distinctions, by not insisting upon this communal G.O. and these communal proportions? I am not asking for any change in society. I am only asking whether the Government will help the society, or whether they will continue to increase and perpetrate, these distinctions, by insisting on these communal proportion?"

THE HON. SRI T.S.AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:--"Sir, Government are helping, by giving equal opportunities for all communities, so that these social inequalities may disappear."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:--"Is it not a fact Sir, that the existing conditions also should be taken into consideration by the Government, so that communal justice could be done to people who deserve help from time to time in the matter of advancement in education?'

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:--"Yes, Sir, the Government want to give equal opportunities to all communities."

SRI T. S. PATTABHIRAMAN:--"At least with a view to allay the fears of the non-Brahmin community, in the Province will the Government give us an assurance that they will not interfere with the communal G.O. for at least ten years more to come?

THE HON. SRI T.S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:--"The Communal G.O. as such is a matter dealt with by the Public Department The hon. Member may put a separate question to the Hon. Minister in charge of that department."

SRI N. S. VARADACHARI:--"Are the Government aware that in the Presidency College admissions to the higher classes, i.e., Chemistry Honours classes were refused to candidates, through they possessed the prescribed qualifications, on the ground that they did not belong to a particular community?"

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:--"No, Sir. I must make the whole thing clear. For the Honours classes, a high standard has been prescribed. I am not able to say immediately just, now, what that standard is. The Professor of the department in consultation with the Principal has prescribed this high standard. It is only people who got marks above the prescribed level, that got admission into these courses. If students from a certain community do not come up to that standard, they may not get admission. But among people who have come up to that standard,representation might have been given to these various communities."

SRI R.V. SWAMINATHAN:--"Arising out of the answer of the Hon. Minister to a previous question, may I ask what the Hon. Minister has himself beeing doing the cause of the advancement of these backward communities, after he has taken up this portfolio?"

THE HON. SRI T.S.AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:--"We admit as many students from these backward communities as possible in our Colleges."

SRI V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:--"Are the Government aware that in certain professional colleges, particularly the Engineering and Medical Colleges, ~~s~~ the admission of candidates merely by a study of the marks obtain by the candidates has resulted in candidates who are not physically or otherwise fit for the courses they have undertaken?"

THE HON. SRI T.S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:--"That question may be put to my Hon. Colleague,the Hon.Minister for Public Health, to myleft."

E & P.H.(A) Deptt.

The extract from the Proceedings of the Leg.Assembly on 27-10-48 on p.4-14 above may be perused. No further action is necessary. The papers may be recorded.

(Sd.) B.M.
20-12-48

G.O.Ms.No.3259, Education dated 20-12-1948.

Abstract:- Legislative Assembly Question - Admission to Colleges - Instructions - Papers RECORDED.

/True Copy/

A. Thiagarajan
Office Assistant,
Madras Record Office.

gs/15-12/